

Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Applicant: Ivan J. Baiges

Serial No.: 10/057,619

Filed: January 24, 2002

Docket No.: 10017070-1

Title: INKJET PRINTING SYSTEM EMPLOYING MULTIPLE INKSET PRINTHEADS AND METHOD OF PERFORMING A PRINTING OPERATION

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Final Office Action mailed June 2, 2003, in which claims 1-43 were rejected. With this Amendment, claim 20 has been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 1, 19, 29, 30, 35, 38, and 41 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 1-19 and 21-43, therefore, are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6, 8-14, 18-28, 30-33, and 35-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Yashima et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,164,747.

With respect to independent claims 1 and 30, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. With respect to independent claim 19, with this Amendment, independent claim 19 has been amended to clarify that the printing system includes a first mechanism for moving a first printhead assembly relative to the print media so that the first printhead assembly can deposit ink only on a first portion of a first side of the print media, and a second mechanism for moving a second printhead assembly relative to the print media so that the second printhead assembly can deposit ink only on a second portion of the first side of the print media.

With respect to the Yashima et al. patent, this patent does not teach or suggest a printing system, as claimed in claim 1, including a first marking engine for depositing a first marking fluid only on a first portion of a first side of the print media and a second marking engine for depositing a second marking fluid only on a second portion of the first side of the print media, nor an inkjet printing system, as claimed in claim 19, including a first mechanism for moving a first printhead assembly relative to the print media so that the first printhead assembly can deposit ink only on a first portion of a first side of the print media and a second mechanism for moving a second printhead assembly relative to the print media so that the second printhead assembly can deposit ink only on a second portion of the first side of the print media, nor a method for performing a printing operation, as claimed in claim 30, including moving the first and second printhead assemblies back and forth across the print media while the first printhead assembly deposits ink only on a first portion of a first side of

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the print media and the second printhead assembly deposits ink only on a second portion of the first side of the print media.

The Examiner contends that the Yashima et al. patent discloses a first marking engine/printhead assembly for depositing a first marking fluid only on a first portion of a first side of the print media and a second marking engine/printhead assembly for depositing the second marking fluid only on a second portion of a first side of the print media. The Yashima et al. patent, however, discloses recording heads 31A and 31B for printing on a recording medium such that recording is performed by the recording head 31A until the recording medium arrives at the recording starting position of the recording head 31B whereafter recording is performed by each of the recording heads 31A and 31B (Fig. 10; col. 20, lines 32-52). As such, recording head 31A records on a first portion (e.g., leading portion) of the recording medium until the recording medium arrives at the recording starting position of the recording head 31B whereafter recording head 31B records on the first portion (e.g., leading portion) of the recording medium and the recording head 31A records on a second portion (e.g., trailing portion) of the recording medium. Thus, the recording heads of the Yashima et al. patent (e.g., recording head 31A) record on both portions (e.g., leading portion and trailing portion) of the recording medium. The recording heads of the Yashima et al. patent, however, do not record only on respective different portions of the recording medium, as claimed in independent claims 1, 19, and 30. Accordingly, the Yashima et al. patent does not teach or suggest a printing system as claimed in claim 1, a printing system as claimed in claim 19, nor a method for performing a printing operation as claimed in claim 30.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 19, and 30 are patentably distinct from the Yashima et al. patent and, therefore, in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2-6, 8-14, 18, and 35-37 further define patentably distinct claim 1, dependent claims 21-28 and 38-40 further define patentably distinct claim 19, and dependent claims 31-33 and 41-43 further define patentably distinct claim 30, Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-6, 8-14, 18, and 35-37, dependent claims 21-28 and 38-40, and dependent claims 31-33 and 41-43 are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-6, 8-14, 18-28, 30-33, and 35-43

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under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1-6, 8-14, 18, 19, 21-28, 30-33, and 35-43 be allowed.

Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 19-29, and 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by the Sette et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,318,840.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the first marking engine and the second marking engine are adapted to move back and forth across the print media along a first direction while depositing the respective first and second marking fluid on the respective first and second portion of the print media along the first direction, and independent claim 19 has been amended to clarify that the printing system includes a first mechanism for moving a first printhead assembly so that the first printhead assembly can deposit ink only on a first portion of a first side of the print media along a first direction while the first printhead assembly moves back and forth across the print media along the first direction, and a second mechanism for moving a second printhead assembly so that the second printhead assembly can deposit ink only on a second portion of the first side of the print media along the first direction while the second printhead assembly moves back and forth across the print media along the first direction.

With respect to the Sette et al. patent, this patent does not teach or suggest a printing system, as claimed in claim 1, nor a printing system, as claimed in claim 19, wherein the first and second marking engines/printhead assemblies move back and forth across the print media along a first direction and deposit marking fluid/ink along the first direction.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 19 are patentably distinct from the Sette et al. patent and, therefore, in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12, 15, and 35-37 further define patentably distinct claim 1, and dependent claims 21-29 and 38-40 further define patentably distinct claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12, 15, and 35-37, and dependent claims 21-29 and 38-40 are also in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 19-29, and 35-40 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 19, 21-29, and 35-40 be allowed.

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Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sette et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,318,840 in view of the Broschart U.S. Patent No. 5,730,049. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sette et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,318,840 in view of the Logan U.S. Patent No. 4,910,871. Claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sette et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,318,840 in view of the Simon et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,428,375. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Yashima et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,164,747 in view of the Logan et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,910,871.

As outlined above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 30 are patentably distinct from the Yashima et al. and Sette et al. patents. As dependent claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 further define patentably distinct claim 1, and dependent claim 34 further defines patentably distinct claim 30, Applicant submits that dependent claims 6, 7, 16, 17, and 34 are also in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 6, 7, 16, 17, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claim 6, 7, 16, 17, and 34 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-19 and 21-43 are all in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Robert D. Wasson at Telephone No. (360) 212-2338, Facsimile No. (360) 212-3060 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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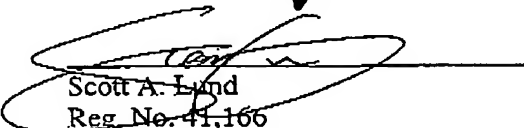
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9319 on this 27TH day of August, 2003.

By 
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